



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN
DELTA CONSERVANCY

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**Action Items and Meeting Summary
for the March 16, 2011 Board Meeting at
3500 Industrial Blvd, Room 119, West Sacramento, CA**

Background

Action Items and Meeting Summary from Conservancy Board meeting on March 16, 2011.

List of Attachments

Attachment 5.1 – Action Items and Meeting Summary

Contact

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ACTION ITEMS

1. In the Executive Officer Delegation of Authority, section 6.a., staff will add wording, "interim and final strategic plans."
2. Staff will update and add the draft Governor's letter to the April 20, 2011 agenda as a potential action item.
3. Staff will contact Arne Simonsen regarding Delta Protection Advisory Committee (DPAC) delegation position and move forward with necessary paperwork and arrangements.
4. Staff will table the Open Phone Line issue until moved into a permanent facility and meeting space.
5. Staff will move forward with the Roundtable event, will set a date, contact potential speakers and begin to actively locate and secure necessary funding.

6. Staff will begin to actively recruit individuals to participate in the identified workgroups.
7. Staff will keep board informed of Conservancy-related legislative activities.
8. Staff comments submitted to the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC), regarding preliminary policies and recommendations for the second draft Delta Plan, will be included in the April 20, 2011 meeting materials.
9. Staff will coordinate the Suisun Marsh tour to follow the April 20, 2011 Board meeting.

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m., March 16, 2011, by Chair Mary Piepho.

2. Flag Salute

Executive Officer Campbell Ingram led the flag salute.

3. Welcome and Introduction

Chair Mary Piepho introduced and welcomed new Alternate Liaison Advisor Maria Rea, from the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Services.

4. Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established. The following Board members were present for the meeting: Chuck Bonham, Karen Finn, Mike Eaton, Mary Piepho, Jim Provenza (arrived 9:13), Dan Taylor, Ken Vogel, Jimmie Yee, and Darla Guenzler.

5. General Public Comments

There were no general public comments.

6. Consent Calendar Items

The Board approved the Action Items and Meeting Summary for the Board Meeting on February 23, 2011 by unanimous vote.

7. Executive Officer Introduction

Chair Mary Piepho introduced Campbell Ingram. Campbell recently worked for The Nature Conservancy as an Associate Director with the California Water Program. His focus areas included participation in the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan effort to develop comprehensive solutions for the Delta, exploration of wetland carbon sequestration opportunities in the Delta, and south Sacramento County groundwater management planning. Previously, he has worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. He has a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Planning from Humboldt State University.

Campbell shared that in his week and a half here, he was happy to find such an enthusiastic, dedicated, and creative staff. He reported he is in the process of meeting individually with all the board members and liaison advisors.

8. Executive Officer's Report

Environmental Scientist—Kristal Fadtke is our new Environmental Scientist who began Monday, March 14th. She's moving from Long Beach and will be teleworking until she and her family complete their move to Davis. Her first day physically at the Conservancy office will be April 11th.

Executive Officer Delegation of Authority— Board reviewed proposed Executive Officer Delegation of Authority, modeled after Sierra Nevada Conservancy's, adjusted for our needs and reviewed by Counsel Mike Crow. The following issues were discussed:

Issue	Outcome
Item 6, should 6.a. include: the Conservancy's "Interim and Final" Strategic Plans?	Yes, amend the Delegation of Authority with that change
Item 11, regarding CEQA procedures: should "consult with counsel" be included	No, it is implied EO would seek counsel as needed.
Item 13, regarding grants: should "board approves grant awards" be included	No, it was agreed, "...award grants...consistent with...grant and program guidelines to be adopted by the Conservancy board" is sufficient.
Item 14, regarding public hearings to receive comments on proposed rulemaking, a member asked for clarification	Clarification given, member understood

It was moved and seconded the Board accept the proposed Executive Officer Delegation of Authority with the one amendment. The Ayes carried unanimously.

Conservancy Budget Update – Board reviewed and discussed recent budget-related actions. These included talks with Karen Finn and Patrick Kemp of the Department of Finance (Finance) and Resources Agency respectively, and indications of positive movements, including that Finance was revisiting the historic split of former CalFED fundings. The Board reviewed the draft letter to the Governor. It will be updated as needed to reflect the most current status of the Conservancy's budget and State budget process and included on the April 20, 2011 agenda. Member Provenza asks, specifically, that stronger language be used discussing the issue of the DSC having "control" of the former CalFED funding.

Resource Agency assures the Conservancy's rent and operational needs will be covered. It was also noted: New office space commitments cannot be made until the 2011-2012 budget is signed; there is no guarantee that the landlord of the identified property will wait until the budget is signed. It was moved and seconded to accept the Budget Report as given. The Ayes carried unanimously.

Conservancy Correspondence – Discussion of the draft letter to the Governor was discussed under the previous item. A copy of a letter to DSC delegating reviewers for their "red flag document review", was provided in the packet.

Conservancy Office Space Update – It was reported that everything is on hold at this point.

Delta Protection Advisory Committee Delegate Update – Chair Piepho asked for recommendation to fill the DPAC delegate position. Arne Simonsen, former Antioch City Council member, who once sat on the Delta Protection Commission (DPC), was recommended for the position. It was moved and seconded to appoint Arne Simonsen as the Conservancy's delegate to the DPAC. Staff was directed to contact Mr. Simonsen and move forward with the necessary paperwork.

Open Phone Line at Board Meetings – Staff reviewed the requirements for establishing an open phone line and board discussed. Logistics and expenses could run \$7-10 an hour. The Board discussed the issue, pointing out that California Coastal Conservancy and the San Diego River Conservancy have open lines and that agencies that have members 400+ miles away tend to have an open line. It was moved and seconded to table the item until permanent space and meeting arrangements were finalized. The Ayes carried unanimously.

Future Funding Sources Update – Nothing new to report.

Delta Planning Efforts – No outstanding meetings to report

Fall Delta Roundtable - Staff reviewed the Delta Roundtable Event proposal emphasizing that the timing is critical. With the Delta Plan, our Strategic Plan and the Economic Sustainability plan expected to be completed this fall, the Roundtable can address integrating the three plans to move forward into the implementation phase. The key theme will be implementation and will emphasize innovation, approaching goals differently than in the past, and working together. Board suggested adding “buying local” and “local food products” into the plan. The board also expressed concern about lack of funding and encouraged sponsorships, grants, etc. It was moved and seconded to proceed on the Delta Roundtable Event, specifically to: confirm the date; approach and invite speakers; talk with the DPC regarding funding; and actively seek sponsors and other funding opportunities. The Ayes carried unanimously.

9. Strategic Plan Process Update

Staff reported that in closed session, the Strategic Plan & Policy Subcommittee agreed to use a Request for Proposals (RFPs) process to contract for both facilitator and technical assistance to complete the final strategic plan. They expect the start date will be July 1, 2011.

All existing members agreed to remain on the Subcommittee. They plan to meet the first Monday of the month, 9am-12pm, at 3500 Industrial Blvd, West Sacramento. New members are welcome and are asked to contact Cindy Messer.

The four initial Subcommittee workgroups will be:

- Strategic Plan (Nancy Ullrey, Ken Vogel, Jim Provenza)
- Delta Plan (Cindy Messer, Ken Vogel, with Jim Provenza as Ken’s alternate)
- Conservancy Landownership and Best Management Practices (Elisa Reynolds, Darla Guenzler, Steve Chappell)
- Conservancy Climate Change policy (Kristal Fadtke and Mike Eaton)

Suggestions for more names are welcome; non-board people can be on workgroups. Staff will receive recommendations and recruit members. All items developed in workgroups will be brought through the Subcommittee to the board. The Subcommittee asked staff to keep the Board informed of Conservancy-related legislation activities.

Staff reported DSC Executive Officer Joe Grindstaff asked the Conservancy to review Policy Recommendations. Comments were sent and will be included in next meeting minutes. Grindstaff noted that previous Conservancy comments will be incorporated in future drafts.

Staff reviewed the Subcommittee’s Delta Plan Comments Plan. They recommend the following *four* processes:

1. Provide DSC with staff comments only if time does not allow a review by the Subcommittee or Board;
2. With slightly more time, the Delta Plan workgroup could help craft comments that would either be sent as staff comments or go to the Subcommittee for review before sending to the DSC;
3. If time allows and the Board agrees, the Subcommittee will develop comments on behalf of the Board for issues of specific interest to the Conservancy; these comments will be reviewed by the Chair and sent under the Chair's signature. These comments will be consistent with the Interim Strategic Plan; and
4. Given the issue or the timing, the full Board will be engaged in developing comments; these comments will be sent from the entire Board. Also, these comments may be submitted after the DSC due date.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Delta Plan Comment Plan as outlined above. The Ayes carried unanimously.

10. Potential Agenda Items for the April 20, 2011 Agenda

The next board meeting is planned to convene in Rio Vista and include a two hour tour of the Suisun Marsh. More details will be provided.

11. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

12. Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted on March 25, 2011

Susan Roberts

Board Liaison, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy